(b) topically administering the formulation to the clitoris or vagina of the subject for treating sexual dysfunction.

28. A method according to claim 27, wherein the misoprostol or misprostol acid is selected from the group consisting of a racemic mixture, an enantiomer in a (+) or (-) R form and an enantiomer in a (+) or (-) S form.

29. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation further comprises a second vasoactive agent in addition to misoprostol or misoprostol acid.

30. A method according to claim 29, wherein the second agent is alpostradil.

31. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation further comprises: a passage accelerator for increasing absorption of at least one of misoprostol and a metabolite of misoprostol and optionally an additional vasodilator.

32. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation further comprises an agent having at least one beneficial effect for the patient when administered with misoprostol or misoprostol acid, the beneficial effect selected from: permitting an increased dose of misoprostol or misoprostol acid for a single application, enhancing treatment of erectile function and reducing a side effect in the subject resulting from administration of the formulation absent the agent.

33. A method according to claim 32, wherein the second agent is cyclodextrin.

34. A method according to claim 27, wherein treatment of erectile dysfunction further includes enhancement of sexual desire.

35. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation further comprises a galenic preparation.

36. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation is administered as one of a gel, an aqueous solution, an ointment, vaginal ovules and a system of controlled transdermal absorption.

37. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation comprises a gel.

38. A method according to claim 37, wherein the gel contains a polymer having a concentration of less than 4% to form a low viscosity gel.

39. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation is administered as a vanishing cream.

40. A method according to claim 27, wherein the formulation further comprises gelatin.

41. A method for treating sexual dysfunction in a female subject, comprising:

(a) providing a mixture including misoprostol or misoprostol acid, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose and water; and

(b) administering the mixture to a female subject.

42. A method according to claim 40, wherein the effective dose of misoprostol or misoprostol acid is in the range of 0.3-0.9% w/v and the formulation further includes hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose comprising hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose 3000 at about 4%w/v.

43. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective dose of at least one of misoprostol or misoprostol acid in a topical formulation suitable for application to at least one of the clitoris and the vagina, for achieving a beneficial effect in women suffering from sexual dysfunction.

44. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein the topical formulation further comprises a second vasoactive agent in addition to misoprostol or misoprostol acid.

45. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 44, wherein the second agent is alpostradil.

46. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein the formulation further comprises a methyl cellulose.

47. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 43, wherein the methyl cellulose is selected from carboxymethylcellulose and hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose.

Remarks

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-26 and added claims 27-47. No new subject matter has been added.

Support for "contains a polymer having a concentration of less than 4% to form a low viscosity gel." is found in the examples where a relatively high viscosity gel containing misoprostol has a polymer concentration of 4% (see list of ingredients on page